

KENTUCKY'S ENVIRONMENT

The Newsletter of the Environmental Quality Commission

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September-October 1999

EQC

is a seven-member citizen board that advises officials on environmental matters, provides a public forum for the discussion of issues, and monitors environmental conditions. To receive the free EQC newsletter call 502-564-2150 ext. 160, email EQC@mail.state.ky.us, or write to EQC at 14 Reilly Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601. EQC Internet Web page <http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/eqc/eqc.html>. Printed bimonthly with state funds.

Statewide Strategy for Confined Animal Feeding Operations Among Cabinet Priorities

Secretary James Bickford of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet has updated the "Top 10" list, which outlines his top priorities for the cabinet.



Animal Feeding Operations (AFOs)/Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs): Sec. Bickford and the cabinet are developing a statewide strategy to regulate AFOs/CAFOs that follows the guidelines established by the U.S. EPA and USDA.



Brownfields: Brownfields are abandoned, idled or under used industrial and commercial facilities where there is real or perceived contamination. Kentucky is using federal grants to assess brownfields and look for ways to clean them up. The cabinet's goal is to return these facilities to active use, without harming human health or the environment.



Drought: A serious shortage of rainfall in Kentucky this year has left most of the state in an extreme drought, with the remainder of the state in a severe drought. Gov. Patton has declared a water emergency for all or part of 53 counties in Kentucky. His order gives the cabinet the ability to restrict or stop water usage in the affected areas. The cabinet's goal is to make sure there are always adequate water supplies for the safety and health of the people of Kentucky.



EMPOWER Kentucky: This is Gov. Patton's initiative to improve the delivery of service in state government and to look for ways the Commonwealth can save money. One of the cabinet's major changes is the installation of a new computer system that simplifies accounting and financial transactions.



Fire season: There is an increased concern about forest fire danger this fall because of the extreme drought most of the state is facing. All but one of Kentucky's counties have issued outdoor burning bans. The Division of Forestry continues to make special preparations to have extra fire crews on hand in case the wildfire season is worse than normal.



Forest Conservation Act Implementation: The provisions of the Kentucky Forest Conservation Act take effect on July 15, 2000. The act promotes long-term timber production, economic opportunities with forest industries and

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Public Concerns with Poultry Operations Expressed at EQC Public Forum



Each year EQC holds public forums across the state to help facilitate public discussion and resolution of environmental issues. EQC held a public forum at Hancock County High School on August 19 to review water quality, toxics and solid waste issues.

More than 60 people attended the evening forum. Many were there to voice concerns about environmental and health impacts from poultry operations. Kentucky has seen a significant increase in the number of confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs) particularly in regard to poultry houses. Broiler production has increased in the state from 22 million broilers in 1992 to 172 million in 1998 and is expected to increase to 231 million by the year 2001.

Several people attending the EQC forum voiced concerns regarding environmental, odor, public health, transportation, and quality of life issues associated with living near poultry houses.

In response to these concerns, EQC issued a resolution calling for a statewide action plan to better respond to CAFO issues such as odors, siting/land use, water quality, integrator liability, pests and health issues, transportation of animals and waste, farmer education and assistance, and worker safety. EQC also called for a certification program for the handling and disposal of animal waste, a state water permitting program for CAFO operations, and a strong and coordinated enforcement program to respond to public complaints and concerns. To view the EQC resolution on CAFOs check out the EQC web site at <http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/eqc/eqc.html>



EQC Commissioner Patty Wallace Honored

Congratulations to EQC Commissioner Patty Wallace. In August, Commissioner Wallace, along with Ruth Colvin of Louisa, received a Daughters of the Revolution "Guardian of the Earth" Award in recognition of a lifetime of effort to protect the environment and teach others the importance of respecting the earth.

EQC Commissioners

Aloma Dew, Chair, Owensboro

Betsy Bennett, V. Chair, Lexington

Patty Wallace, Lousia

Serena Williams, Louisville

Gary Revlett, Shelbyville

Bob Riddle, Midway

C.V. Bennett, III, Harlan

MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

Oct. 8-10 - KY Association of Environmental Education Annual Conference - Capital Plaza Holiday Inn, Frankfort. *Contact: Karen Reagor, 606-578-0312*

Oct. 8-10 - KFTC Annual Meeting - KY Leadership Center, Faubush. *Contact: KFTC, 606-878-2161 or stonehouse@kih.net.*

Oct. 18 - KY Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board Meeting 633 Teton Trail, Frankfort. *Contact: Mary Jean Eddins, 502-564-2184.*

Oct. 18-20 - International Ash Utilization Symposium - Heritage Hall, Lexington. *Contact: Geaunita Caylor at 606-257-2820 or gcaylor@engr.uky.edu.*

Nov. 3 & 17 - '99 Air Quality Update Seminars - Embassy Suites, Lexington and Holiday Inn Hurstbourne, Louisville. *Contact: Phyllis Wells, KY Chamber of Commerce, 502-695-4700.*

Nov. 9 - Buying Recycling: The Real Story about Cost, Availability, and Quality - national interactive satellite forum, various KY sites. *Contact Rich Green, DWM, at 502-564-6716 for KY sites.*

Nov. 9-10 - 24th Annual Governor's Conference on the Environment - Jenny Wiley State Park, Prestonsburg. *Contact: Veda Aldridge, NREPC, 502-564-7320 or register on-line at <http://www.nr.state.ky.us/nrepc/governor/govhome.htm>*

Nov. 12-14 - Sierra Club Annual Meeting - Cumberland Falls State Park, Corbin. *Contact: Mary Barry, 606-255-7946.*

PUBLIC NOTICES/HEARINGS

Ky. Division of Water - KPDES Water Permit Notices

***40 Water Discharge Permit Issuances/Reissuances** - (Public Notice 99 30-34). *Contact: Courtney Seitz, 502-564-3410, ext. 465.*

***Continental General Tire, Corp., Mayfield (Graves Co.)** - permit modification of an existing discharge to change monitoring frequency of the storm water outfalls. *Contact: Ronnie Thompson, 502-564-3410.*

***Ford Motor Co., KY Truck Plant, Louisville (Jefferson Co.)** - permit modification of an existing storm water discharge. *Contact: Dan Juett, DOW, 502-564-3410.*

Ky. Division of Waste Management - Hazardous Waste Notices

***Affordable Waste Control, Louisville (Jefferson Co.)** - proposal to approve the hazardous waste storage closure plan submitted by Affordable Waste Control. **Public Comment** is due by Nov. 1. The plan is available for public inspection.

***DeMil International, Nortonville (Hopkins Co.)** - The Div. of Waste Management has prepared a draft storage and treatment permit for the commercial treatment of propellants, explosives and pyrotechnic wastes. **Public Comment** is due by Nov. 15.

Contact: Michael Welch, 502-564-6716, ext. 246.

Ky. Div. of Waste Management - Underground Storage Tanks

***Big O Market, 501 N Jefferson, Princeton (Caldwell Co.)**

***Raymer Property, 3282 La Grange Road, Smithfield (Henry Co.)**

***Chevron #48550, 3795 Lexington Rd., Louisville (Jefferson Co.)**

Contact: Roy Johnson, 502-564-6716, ext. 223.

U.S. EPA Underground Injection Control Wells - Notices

***Tamarack Petroleum Co., Henderson Co. (KY99UIC018)** - issuance of underground injection well.

Contact: William Mann, US EPA, 404-562-9429, ext. 29452.

KY. Division for Air Quality - Public Notices

***American Greetings Corp.** - has applied for a revision of the State Implementation (SIP). The company requests a one month averaging period for compliance instead of the 24-hour emission averaging period required by 401 KAR 59:212.

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Environmental Quality Commission
Meeting Announcement



October 19-20, 1999

Carter Caves State Resort Park

EQC Annual Working Retreat

** review past year accomplishments*

** set priorities for the year 2000*

All EQC meetings are free and open to the public. Meeting facilities are accessible to people with disabilities. Auxiliary aids, interpreters, and other services will be provided upon request by contacting EQC.

Air Public Notices Continued - from front page

***Title V Operating Permit - DOW-Corning**, Carrollton (Carroll Co.); **Hartco Hardwood Flooring**, Somerset (Pulaski Co.); **ISP Chemicals, Inc.**, Calvert City (Marshall Co.); **Osram Sylvania, Inc.**, Versailles (Woodford Co.); **Quebecor Printing**, Franklin (Simpson Co.); **RR Donnelley & Sons**, Glasgow (Barren Co.); **Van Leer Containers**, Florence (Boone Co.)

***Conditional Major Source Construction/Operating Permit (Title V does not apply) - Link Belt Construction Equipment**, Lexington (Fayette Co.); **MRM Associates**, Calvert City (Marshall Co.); **Smelter Service Corp**, Hartford (Ohio Co.)

***Title V Operating Permit (with significant revisions) - Mail Well Label USA**, Bowling Green (Warren Co.); **North American Stainless**, Ghent (Carroll Co.)

***Prevention of Significant Deterioration Construction/Operating Permit - North American Stainless**, Ghent (Carroll Co.); **Gallatin Steel Corp.**, Warsaw (Gallatin Co.)

*** Synthetic Minor Operating Permit at Title V Source (PSD regulations do not apply) - General Electric Co.**, Lexington (Fayette Co.)

*** Conditional Major Source Operating Permit (Title V regulations do not apply) - Okonite Co.**, Richmond (Madison Co.)

*** Synthetic Minor Construction/Operating Permit at a Title V Source (PSD regulations do not apply) - Logan Aluminum, Inc.**, Russellville (Logan Co.)

*** Title V Construction/Operating Permit - Gallatin Steel Corp.**, Warsaw (Gallatin Co.)

To comment on above air notices contact: Bill Dills, 502-573-3382.

FEDERAL NOTICES

***Red River Gorge Geological Area Management Guide**- Develop a management guide for the Red River Gorge area to limit impacts to the Gorge. Scoping input begins in Feb. 2000. For more information contact: USFS Stanton District, 606-663-2852.

PUBLICATIONS

***20th Anniversary Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Report** - looks back over the last twenty years since Surface Mining Law came into effect and details what has been accomplished. Contact: Office of Surface Mining, 202-208-2719

***KY Department of Mines and Minerals 1998 Annual Report** - details coal mining, oil and gas, miner training, and explosive use activities in the state for 1998. Copies of the report are \$15. Contact: Deven Brown, 502-573-0140.

***Evaluation of Approximate Original Contour and Post-mining Land Use in Kentucky (draft)** - an Office of Surface Mining study on mountaintop operations in Kentucky. Contact: Allen Klein, 412-937-2828.

Top Ten - continued from front page

tourism, and healthy, high quality forests. The Division of Forestry is training its staff on the standards created by the legislation. The division is also working to educate the logging industry, landowners and the public about the legislation and how it will affect them.



Illegal dumping: Kentucky is a beautiful state that is often tarnished by illegal dumping. Sec. Bickford's illegal dumping initiative continues to identify offenders and put them to work cleaning up dump sites. Hidden cameras have been a big help in catching illegal dumpers in the act.



Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP): The cabinet is concerned with recent allegations that radioactive wastes may have been disposed of at locations previously unknown to the cabinet. The cabinet currently has regulatory authority for air quality, water and waste management at the PGDP. The cabinet believes that the U.S. Department of Energy is not receiving the funding it needs to clean up the facility in a timely manner. Gov. Patton and Sec. Bickford recently met with congressional and White House representatives to lobby for adequate funding for the cleanup. The Department for Environmental Protection continues to take an active role in monitoring air, water, and waste management at the plant.



Regionalization of water and sewer districts: Across Kentucky, many small sewer and water districts have failing or inadequate systems that they don't have the financial resources to repair and upgrade. Sec. Bickford continues to advocate a solution to this problem called "regionalization." This combines several small water and sewer districts into one larger, regional district. This approach allows communities to combine their financial resources for an adequate, more efficient system.



2000 General Assembly: When the Kentucky Legislature convenes in January 2000, there will be many pieces of legislation that could have a direct impact on Kentucky's land, air and water. The cabinet will monitor the progress of these various bills and work to protect the state's natural resources.



Ranked: Top Ten Streams for Rare Species and Biodiversity Conservation

Kentucky is blessed with some of the world's richest collection of fish, mussels and crayfish. However, these same organisms are the most imperiled. In an effort to identify and prioritize Kentucky streams most at risk, the Ky. State Nature Preserves Commission (KSNPC) issued a top ten list of streams for rare species and biodiversity conservation. This list will help KSNPC focus their preservation and protection efforts.

Stream(# rare, native species)

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Upper Green River (28) | 6. Rockcastle River (12) |
| 2. Lower Ohio River (18) | 7. Terrapin Creek (12) |
| 3. Lower Tennessee R. (17) | 8. Big S. Fork Cumb. R. (11) |
| 4. Barren River (13) | 9. Licking River (11) |
| 5. Bayou de Chien, Obion, | 10. Little S. Fork Cumb. R. (10) |
- Mayfield Creeks. (12)

For more information about the top ten list contact Ron Cicerello, KSNPC, at 502-573-2886.



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October is Indoor Air Quality Action Month. Information kits are available to guide interested groups and individuals through issues such as secondhand smoke, asthma, radon, and combustion gases and carbon monoxide. For more information contact Linda Adler at 606-257-7775 or lreece@ca.uky.edu.



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